Seizure of skins, tusks, etc.

2101. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seized wildlife products which include tiger skins, leopard skins and elephant tusks during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the value of the seizures;

(c) whether some cases of killing of animals have been reported during the last one year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reports on seizures of wildlife products have been received from various State Governments. As per the information received from the State Governments, the details of wildlife products seized are at Statement-I. (*See* below) Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 trade in all such articles is prohibited. The value of seizures, therefore, cannot be ascertained.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of animals killed in the last one year, as reported by the States, are at Statement-II. The action as per law is taken by the respective State Governments.

Statement-I

Details of wildlife products seized during last two years

Year	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant Tusks
2003-04	7 kg bones, 17 skins, 1 skeleton, 23 nails, 1 head	84 skins, 3 skulls, 1 mounts, 5 kg bones & teeth,	44
2004-05	2 skins	60 skins, 14 teeth of leopard/tiger, 60 kg. paws of tiger/leopard, 3 kg claws to tiger/leopard, 10 pairs jaws of tiger/leopard, 40 small bones of tiger/leopard	27

Statement-II

Details of poaching of animals during last one year

Year	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant
2004-05	1	—	17

Ganga dolphin

2102. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn toward the media report regarding the Ganga Dolphins, both protected and endangered species which are being mercilessly butchered by poachers and fishermen for oil; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the steps proposed to be taken to save this endangered and threatened species whose extinction may upset the rivers ecology?